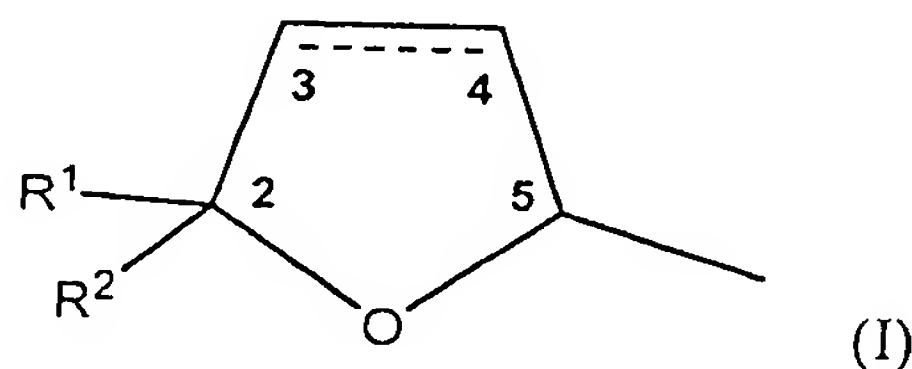


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I)



wherein

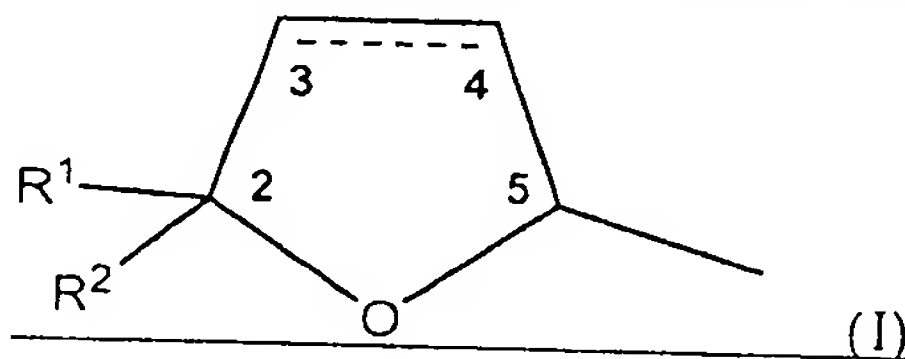
R^1 is methyl, ethyl, propyl or iso-propyl;

R^2 is a branched $C_4 - C_7$ alkyl, with the proviso that the C_5 alkyl is neo-pentyl, $C_5 - C_8$ cycloalkyl, or mono- or disubstituted C_5 or C_6 cycloalkyl; and

the bond between C-3 and C-4 is a single bond, or the dotted line together with the bond between C-3 and C-4 represents a double bond.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran, 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, and 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran.

3. (Currently amended) A method for using a compound [[Use]] as odorant, the method comprising using [[of]] a compound of formula (I) as odorant as defined by claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound of formula (I) is described by the chemical structure:



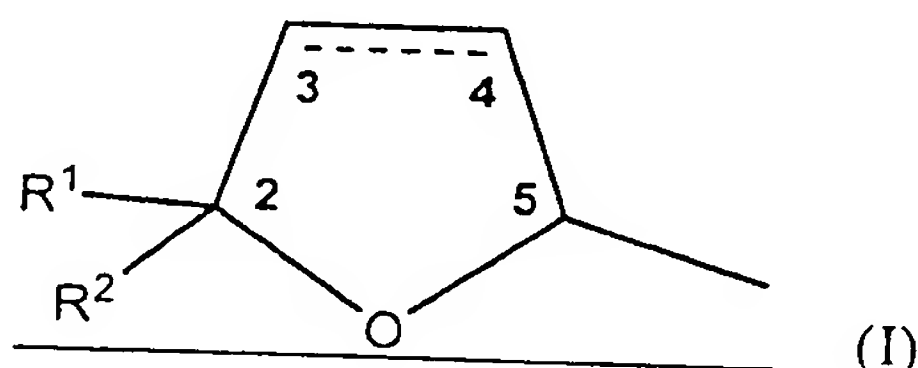
wherein

R¹ is methyl, ethyl, propyl or iso-propyl;

R² is a branched C₄ - C₇ alkyl, C₅ - C₈ cycloalkyl, or mono- or disubstituted C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl; and

the bond between C-3 and C-4 is a single bond, or the dotted line together with the bond between C-3 and C-4 represents a double bond.

4. (Currently amended) A flavour or fragrance composition comprising a compound of formula (I) ~~as defined in claim 1 or 2~~, wherein the compound of formula (I) is described by the chemical structure:



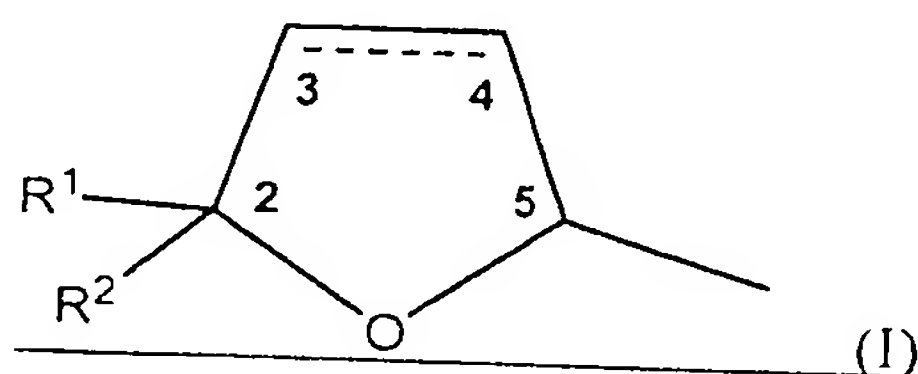
wherein

R¹ is methyl, ethyl, propyl or iso-propyl;

R² is a branched C₄ - C₇ alkyl, C₅ - C₈ cycloalkyl, or mono- or disubstituted C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl; and

the bond between C-3 and C-4 is a single bond, or the dotted line together with the bond between C-3 and C-4 represents a double bond.

5. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a flavour or fragrance composition, ~~comprising the step of the method comprising:~~ incorporating a compound of formula (I) as ~~defined in claim 1 or 2~~ into a base material, wherein the compound of formula (I) is described by the chemical structure:



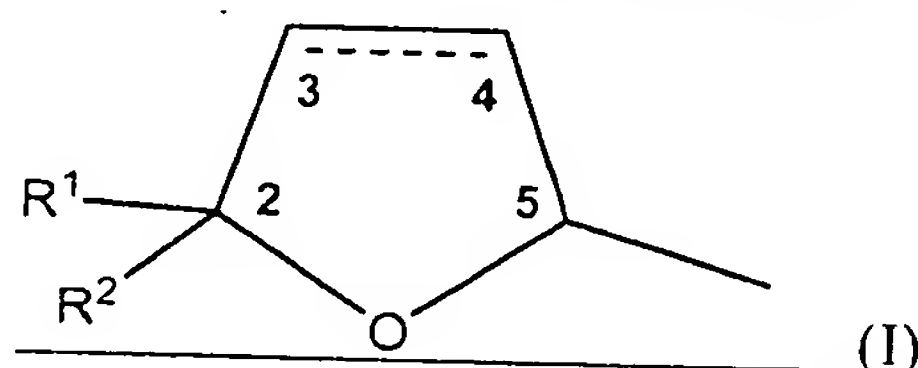
wherein

R¹ is methyl, ethyl, propyl or iso-propyl;

R² is a branched C₄ - C₇ alkyl, C₅ - C₈ cycloalkyl, or mono- or disubstituted C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl; and

the bond between C-3 and C-4 is a single bond, or the dotted line together with the bond between C-3 and C-4 represents a double bond.

6. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a fragrance application, comprising the incorporation of a compound of formula (I) ~~as defined in claim 1 or 2~~, wherein the compound of formula (I) is described by the chemical structure:



wherein

R¹ is methyl, ethyl, propyl or iso-propyl;

R² is a branched C₄ - C₇ alkyl, C₅ - C₈ cycloalkyl, or mono- or disubstituted C₅ or C₆ cycloalkyl; and

the bond between C-3 and C-4 is a single bond, or the dotted line together with the bond between C-3 and C-4 represents a double bond.

7. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to claim 6 wherein the fragrance application is selected from the group consisting of perfumes, household products, laundry products, body care products and cosmetics.

8. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran, 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, and 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran.

9. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein the proportion of the compound of formula (I) is from 0.001 to 5 weight percent of the fragrance application.

10. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the incorporation of the compound of formula (I) is by directly admixing the compound of formula (I) to the fragrance application.
11. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the incorporation of the compound of formula (I) is by admixing a fragrance composition comprising a compound of formula (I) and mixing the fragrance composition with the fragrance application.
12. (New) The method of claim 6, including entrapping the compound of formula (I) with an entrapment material, and then mixing with the fragrance application.
13. (New) The method of claim 5 wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran, 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, and 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran.
14. (New) The composition of claim 4 wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran, 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, and 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran.
15. (New) The method of claim 3 wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-5-methyl-2-propyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2-ethyl-5-methyltetrahydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, 2-*tert*-butyl-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran, 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyl-2,5-dihydrofuran, and 2-(3',3'-dimethylcyclohexyl)-2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran.